

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2017, Legislative Day No. 42

Resolution No. 56-17

Introduced by Mr. Walker

By the County Council, December 4, 2017

1 RESOLUTION urging the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning and  
2 Department of Inspections and Permits to implement a six-month moratorium on  
3 approvals of stand-alone solar generating facilities

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5 WHEREAS, § 18-4-106 of the Anne Arundel County Code allows solar energy  
6 systems as a principal use as a conditional use in Residential Agricultural (“RA”)  
7 zoning districts; and

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9 WHEREAS, the State of Maryland has begun a pilot program for  
10 Community Solar Energy Generating Systems; and

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12 WHEREAS, there are five pending applications for the construction of solar  
13 energy systems as principal uses in RA districts in Anne Arundel County, with at  
14 least one seeking to operate as a power generation facility regulated by the Public  
15 Service Commission; and

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17 WHEREAS, several community groups have approached the County Council  
18 about possible inadequacies in the County Code as it relates to solar energy  
19 system provisions; and

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21 WHEREAS, the placement of these facilities in our rural conservation and  
22 agricultural areas demands further scrutiny before approval of these facilities,  
23 especially in light of changes to State law and implementation of incentives  
24 leading to increased interest in solar energy facilities; and

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26 WHEREAS, neighboring counties have passed or are considering enhanced  
27 provisions to protect the community and landscape surrounding these facilities;  
28 now, therefore, be it

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30 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland*, that the Anne  
31 Arundel County Council urges the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning  
32 and the Department of Inspections and Permits to implement a six-month moratorium on  
33 approvals of stand-alone solar energy facilities pending review and revision of existing  
34 County Code provisions that relate to these facilities; and be it further

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36 *Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steven R.  
37 Schuh.